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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/025,206	12/19/2001	David Kapiloff	KCX-483(16763)	4939

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06/04/2003

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EXAMINER

ASHLEY, BOYER DOLINGER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3724

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/025,206

Applicant(s)

KAPILOFF, DAVID

Examiner

Boyer D. Ashley

Art Unit

3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the corresponding address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 13, 16 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-12, 14, 15, 17-19, 21 and 22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4 & 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The use of the trademark "Lev-R-Matic" (e.g. pages 7 and 15) has been noted in this application. It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology.

Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-3, 13, 16 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rooklyn, U.S. Patent 3,737,087.

Rooklyn discloses the same invention as claimed, for example, including: a housing (10) with a roller carrier (132) for a roll of towel material (130) and dispensing slot (the slot formed in the housing and accessible when the doors are opened, see Figure 10); an electro-mechanical feed mechanism (240, 250, 262, 272, 238, 182, 178, 176, 170, 174, 160, Figure 13) disposed in the housing to dispense sheets wherein the mechanism is capable of two operating states a mechanical state that allows a user grasp and pull the tail of the sheet and an electrical state that allows for the sheet to be

electrically and automatically fed out (see columns 5 and 6, lines 30-67 and 1-45, respectively); and a motor (160).

As to claim 2, Rooklyn discloses the use of a control circuit (the wires, power supply (293), connections (295, 296), and switches (276,274).

As to claim 3, Rooklyn discloses the use of a feed roller (92/94) driven by the motor from frictional contact with roller 120 in the second operational state and freely rotatable in the first operational state and a pressure roller (120) opposing the feed roller.

As to claim 13, Rooklyn discloses the use of a power supply (293), a motor power switch (276,276, 242). The phrase "said switch being closed to supply power to said motor upon a measured sheet being severed from the towel material by the user, and being opened upon a measured amount of tail being extended from the dispensing slot by said feed mechanism" is merely functional/intended use not further defining the claim because there is no specific structure specified. Moreover, it should be noted that the switch of Rooklyn is capable of the above functional/intended use recitation by the user merely actuating the switch at the appropriated time.

As to claim 16, the feed mechanism clamps the sheet material between the two rollers as shown in Figure 10.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 4-12, 14-15, 17-19, and 21-22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

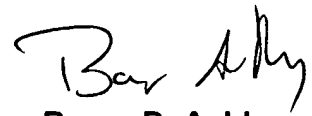
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Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Boyer Ashley whose telephone number is 703-308-1845. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday between 7:30am and 6:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan Shoap can be reached on 703-308-1082.

In lieu of mailing, it is encouraged that all formal responses be faxed to 703-872-9302. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1148.


Boyer D. Ashley
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3724

bda
May 22, 2003